

Message Text

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ORIGIN ACDA-19

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 AEC-11 AF-10 ARA-16

CIAE-00 DODE-00 EA-11 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NASA-04

NEA-11 NSAE-00 NSC-10 OIC-04 SPC-03 PA-04 PRS-01

RSC-01 SAM-01 SCI-06 SS-20 USIA-15 SAJ-01 /211 R

DRAFTED BY ACDA/DD:JOZURHELLEN/AFNEIDLE/WGIVAN

APPROVED BY ACDA/DD:JOZURHELLEN

IO/UNP:DBLACK (SUB)

----- 067680

R 152315Z FEB 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 031893

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM

SUBJECT: CONSULTATIONS ON NPT REVIEW CONFERENCE PREPCOM

REF: STATE 28854

DISTO

1. SOVIET DCM VORONTSOV CALLED ACDA DEP DIR ZURHELLEN
FEB 15 TO SAY THAT MOSCOW INEXPLICABLY WAS STILL PROPOSING
THAT THREE DEPOSITARIES CARRY OUT LIAISON WITH OTHER
MEMBERS OF PREPCOM BY HAVING THREE AMBS IN NEW YORK SEE
SYG AND REQUEST HIM, ON THEIR BEHALF, TO INFORM OTHER
MEMBERS OF PROPOSED OPENING DATE, APRIL 1. ZURHELLEN
EXPLAINED THAT, ON BASIS CONVERSATION FEB 11, USG HAD
ALREADY PROCEEDED TO START CONSULTING (NOT NOTIFYING)
PREPCOM MEMBERS BEGINNING WITH SWEDEN, MEXICO AND YUGO-
SLAVIA. VORONTSOV AGREED THAT THIS WAS "ABSOLUTELY CORRECT"
IN ACCORDANCE WITH HIS OWN RECOLLECTION AND REPORTING OF
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FEB 11 CONVERSATION AND PROFESSED TO BE BAFFLED BY MOSCOW.

HE AGREED THAT WITH PROCESS ALREADY IN TRAIN THERE WAS NO POINT IN PUSHING MOSCOW'S PREFERRED PLAN, BUT ASKED WHETHER WE COULD AGREE TO BRING SYG INTO ACT IN SOME WAY, AT LEAST LETTING AMBASSADORS INFORM HIM OF WHAT WE WERE DOING. ZURHELLEN REPEATED OUR RATIONALE AGAINST SYG INVOLVEMENT BUT AGREED TO CONSIDER.

2. BRITISH EMBASSY INFORMED US SHORTLY AFTER VORONTSOV'S CALL THAT IT HAD RECEIVED CABLE FROM UK EMBASSY MOSCOW TO EFFECT THAT USSR PREFERRED ACTION BY DEPOSITARIES

THROUGH UNSYG. BRITISH HERE ALSO RECEIVED MESSAGE FROM FCO NOTING FCO COULD SEE SOME UTILITY IN PROCEDURE PROPOSED BY SOVIETS, SINCE THIS WOULD PROVIDE MEANS OF HAVING FORMAL INVITATIONS ISSUED. (WE NOTE THAT QUESTION OF INVITATIONS WAS ALSO RAISED IN LONDON'S 2044.) FCO WOULD, HOWEVER, LEAVE IT TO US AND USSR TO WORK MATTER OUT. BEFORE RESPONDING TO VORONTSOV, AS DESCRIBED BELOW, WE OUTLINED OUR THINKING TO UK EMBOFF WHO RAISED NO OBJECTION TO OUR PROCEEDING IN THIS WAY.

3. ZURHELLEN SUBSEQUENTLY CALLED VORONTSOV BACK AND SAID, IN VIEW SOVIET DESIRES, WE COULD AGREE TO HAVING US, UK, AND SOVIET DELEGATIONS IN NEW YORK MAKE JOINT APPROACH TO UN SECRETARIAT TO INFORM THE SECRETARIAT THAT:
(1) WE HAVE INITIATED CONSULTATIONS WITH OTHER PREPCOM MEMBERS AND WISHED TO VERIFY THAT UN FACILITIES AND ASSISTANCE WOULD BE AVAILABLE IN GENEVA BEGINNING APRIL 1;
(2) AFTER PREPCOM MEMBERS REACH AGREEMENT ON DATE, WE WOULD EXPECT THE SECRETARIAT, AS PART OF ITS ASSISTANCE PURSUANT TO UNGA RESOLUTION, TO NOTIFY MEMBERS OF ITS UNDERSTANDING THAT THE DATE HAD BEEN AGREED AND THAT UN FACILITIES WOULD BE AVAILABLE.

4. ZURHELLEN NOTED THAT WE BELIEVED JOINT APPROACH SHOULD BE MADE TO CHIEF OF UN DISARMAMENT DIVISION (BJORNERSTEDT) AS SENIOR UN OFFICIAL WHO WILL DIRECT STAFF SUPPORT ACTIVITY FOR PREPCOM AND REVIEW CONFERENCE. WE WOULD HAVE SOME RELUCTANCE TO GO ANY HIGHER, FOR INSTANCE, TO SYG DIRECTLY AS SOVIETS APPARENTLY HAD IN CONFIDENTIAL

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MIND, BECAUSE THIS COULD BE MISINTERPRETED AS SIGN WE EXPECTED THE UN, AND SYG IN PARTICULAR, TO PLAY ACTIVE ROLE IN THE CONFERENCE. WE WOULD FEEL IT APPROPRIATE, HOWEVER, IF PERM REPS OF DEPOSITARIES INDIVIDUALLY INFORMED SYG ABOUT MATTER SUBSEQUENTLY DURING COURSE OF NORMAL BUSINESS CONTACTS.

5. ZURHELLEN COMMENTED THAT WE ALSO THOUGHT PREPCOM

SHOULD MEET THROUGH MUTUAL AGREEMENT OF ITS MEMBERS
RATHER THAN ON BASIS OF FORMAL INVITATION FROM DEPOSI-
TARIES OR FROM UNSYG.

6. VORONTSOV WELCOMED US RESPONSE AND PROMISED TO REPORT
PROMPTLY TO MOSCOW.

7. COMMENT: RE QUESTION OF INVITATIONS, WE BELIEVE NO
FORMAL INVITATIONS ARE NEEDED. WHEN PREPCOM MEMBERS HAVE
AGREED ON DATE AND PLACE OF MEETING, THEY CAN BE EXPECTED
TO ATTEND. ON THE OTHER HAND, THERE IS POSSIBILITY OF
RESENTMENT IF SEVERAL MEMBERS PRESUME TO INVITE THE OTHERS.
AS TO POSSIBILITY OF INVITATIONS BY SYG, WE FEEL THIS
WOULD NOT BE APPROPRIATE SINCE NEITHER PREPCOM NOR
REVIEW CONFERENCE ITSELF IS UN CONFERENCE IN NORMAL
SENSE. RUSH

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